

Message Text

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46

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 USIA-06 /018 W
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R 101230Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5403

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUJUMBURA 0396

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, BY (NIKOBAMYE, GAETAN)

SUBJECT: FY-76 IV PROGRAM

REF: STATE 112577

1. EMBOFFS HAVE HAD LONG SESSIONS WITH NIKOBAMYE SINCE HIS RETURN, AND THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT TRIP WAS AN UNQUALIFIED SUCCESS. WE ALSO KNOW THAT HE HAD FOUR HOUR PRIVATE SESSION WITH PRESIDENT MICOMBERO TO RECOUNT TRIP, AND ONLY OTHER FRIEND PRESENT SAYS NIKOBAMYE WAS ALMOST ECSTATIC.

2. NIKOBAMYE'S ONLY SMALL RESERVATION WAS ABOUT HIS ESCORT, WHO HE CLAIMS WAS NOT VERY EASY-GOING OR FLEXIBLE (I.E., PERHAPS HE DID NOT ADAPT RAPIDLY ENOUGH TO NIKOBAMYE'S WISHES). BUT EXCELLENT OUTCOME OF TRIP HAS REVIVED PLANS TO SEND MRS. MICOMBERO ON "PRIVATE" VISIT TO THE U.S., MAYBE IN OCTOBER OR NOVEMBER.

3. AS REFTEL NOTES, NIKOBAMYE LIKED LAKE TAHOE A GREAT DEAL, MAINLY BECAUSE AN AMERICAN SPONTANEOUSLY BEFRIENDED HIM THERE AND, ENTIRELY ON HIS OWN, TOOK NIKOBAMYE TO HIS HOME AND FAMILY. HE WAS VERY IMPRESSED WITH LOUISIANA, NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF SUGAR ASPECTS, BUT ALSO BECAUSE HE MET A RICE FARMER, WHO, WITH ONE WORKER, PRODUCES MORE RICE THAN A PROJECT OUTSIDE OF BUJUMBURA, WITH 2,500 PEASANTS, ON WHICH THE EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT FUND HAS SPENT ABOUT TEN MILLION DOLLARS. AIR FORCE ACADEMY TOO WAS A GREAT HIT.

4. NIKOBAMYE ALSO APPRECIATED HIS MEETINGS IN

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WASHINGTON, ESPECIALLY WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFELE.

NATURALLY HE HAS SPREAD THE WORD, AS RECEIVED FROM SCHAUFELE,
THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE HAS DECIDED IN PRINCIPLE THAT
A BILATERAL U.S. AID PROGRAM SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN IN BURUNDI.
MARK

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